

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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| COUNTRY | USSR (Stalingrad Oblast) | REPORT | |
| SUBJECT | Air Activity in the Stalingrad Area | DATE DISTR. | 22 May, 1953 |
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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- Between the spring of 1951 and May 1952, air activity by twin-jet planes was observed over what was reported to be a very large airfield north-west of PW camp 6124/1, west of Stalingrad. The aircraft, probably mid-wing monoplanes with nose wheels, had their engines in the wings. The elevator assemblies of these aircraft were considerably swept back. When the planes flew very low, two small bulges with short projecting tube-like devices could be observed at the sides of the nose compartment. This aircraft type was observed for the first time in the spring of 1951, and was subsequently observed almost daily until the late fall. There was very little air activity during the winter of 1951 - 1952, but there was increased activity in March and April 1952. The aircraft described above were always observed in formations of three to six. Often three planes would take off simultaneously, apparently headed in an easterly direction toward the area east of the Volga River.¹
- During the periods of from about April to September 1951 and during April 1952, a twin-engine, propeller-driven plane was seen to take off from a field west of PW camp No. 6124/2 daily in the late afternoon. The plane would circle over the field several times, and then eight or ten persons would parachute from the plane. This procedure was repeated up to four times each afternoon. No other military exercises were observed in connection with these jumps. According to statements by Soviets, the jumps were performed by members of a civil parachute association, which included women. After a number of jumps, they received a certain amount of money, food, or luxuries.²
- On three days between March and May 1952, a helicopter with a short, clumsy fuselage, a large propeller on the fuselage which rotated horizontally, and an engine on either side of the fuselage with regular propellers, was observed in the air west of PW camp No. 6124/2. The plane

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reached an altitude of 300 - 500 meters. Sometimes it climbed or descended almost vertically.³

1. Comment. The aircraft here described are probably IL-28s. 25X1
2. Comment. It is known from previous reports that civilians are promised money for parachute training.
3. Comment. The helicopter observed is probably a new and unidentified type. Its description is clear enough to preclude confusing it with the two-seater Omega type. 25X1

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